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CHANNEL: n/a

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PAGE 01

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ACTION PM-02

EXCISE

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INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AMAD-01	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	CIP-10
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	ADS-00	NEA-01	NRRC-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-09	OMB-01
	PA-01	PRS-01	P-01	RPCS-01	SDEL-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00	TST-00	T-00	USIE-00	CORE-00
	SSD-01	/070W					

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6727 NY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE IMIPS/CR/TR Dated 4/10/97

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FOIA Exemptions

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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 BEIJING 028146

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PARM, ETTC, CBW, EWWT, PHSA, IR, CH

SUBJECT: CHINA "STRONGLY PROTESTS" U.S. ACTIONS RE THE

"YIN HE"

REFS: A. BEIJING 28108; B. BEIJING 27998; C. ABU

Dhabi 6339; D. STATE 240305; E. EINHORN-ALOISI TELCON

8/7/93

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1.. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: LATE ON AUGUST 7, CHINESE MFA ASSISTANT MINISTER QIN HUASUN LODGED ON BEHALF OF HIS GOVERNMENT A "STRONG PROTEST" REGARDING U.S. ACTIONS IN THE "YIN HE" CASE, REITERATING THAT CHINA EXPECTS THE U.S. TO FIND A PORT OF CALL ON THE SHIP'S ORIGINAL ITINERARY WHICH WILL ACCEPT THE "YIN HE." AFTER BOTH SIDES REVIEWED THE RECORD FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS,

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DECLASSIFY END SUMMARY.

3. POLMINCOUNS CONVEYED REF E POINTS TO CHINESE MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHA ZUKANG IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT (SEPTEL). SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE CHINESE REQUESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR MEET AT 2 P.M. WITH ASSISTANT MINISTER QIN HUASUN. AT THE MEETING, QIN WAS ACCCOMPANIED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT DISARMAMENT DIVISION DEPUTY CHIEF ZHANG WEIDONG, NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN AFFAIRS USA DIVISION DEPUTY CHIEF CHEN MINGMING, AN INTERPRETER, AND ANOTHER MFA OFFICER. THE AMBASSADOR WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLMINCOUNS (NOTETAKER) AND THE EMBASSY INTERPRETER.

CHINESE STRONG PROTEST REGARDING THE "YIN HE" AFFAIR
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4. AFTER THANKING THE AMBASSADOR FOR AGREEING TO THE MEETING ON ONE HOUR NOTICE, QIN RECOUNTED SOME OF THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE "YIN HE" CASE.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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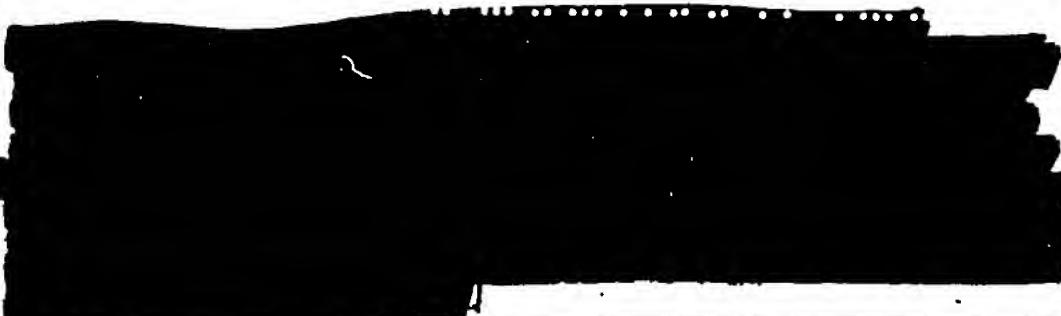
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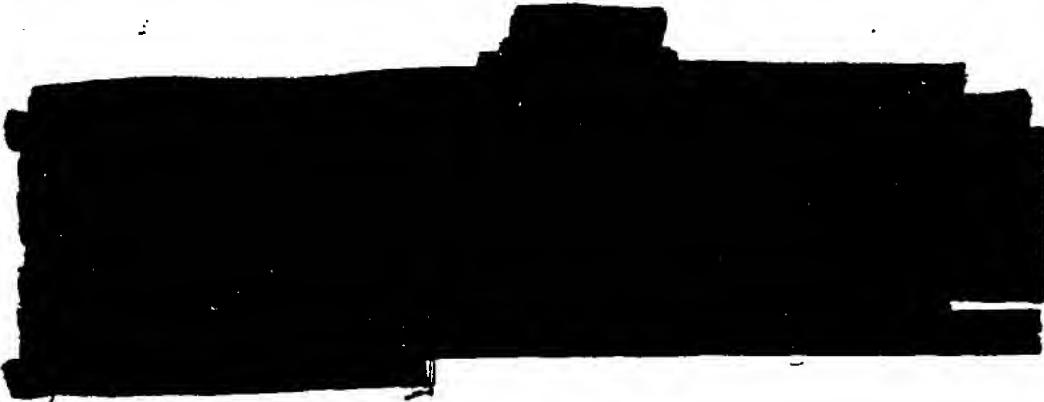
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6728
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 BEIJING 028146

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"YIN HE"



AMBASSADOR'S REPLY TO QIN'S PROTEST

8. NOTING THAT THE U.S. AND CHINA ARE ORIGINAL SIGNATORIES OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, AND BOTH COUNTRIES ARE REQUIRED TO CONTROL THE TRADE IN CERTAIN TYPES OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT THE U.S. HAD ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO CHINA'S SIGNING OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, THE U.S. RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT SUGGESTED CHEMICALS LISTED ON AN ANNEX TO CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION WERE ON BOARD A CHINESE SHIP AND WERE BOUND FOR THE IRANIAN PORT OF BANDAR-E-ABBAS. WE IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT THIS INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IN THE EXPECTATION THAT IT WOULD INVESTIGATE THE MATTER AND, IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO STOP THE CHEMICALS FROM BEING DELIVERED.

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9. CHINA, IN FACT, INVESTIGATED THE MATTER AND, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO IT, WAS UNABLE

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TO ESTABLISH THAT DANGEROUS CHEMICALS WERE ON BOARD
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THE SHIP. NEVERTHELESS, CHINA AGREED TO A JOINT INVESTIGATION WHEN THE SHIP ARRIVED IN DUBAI. THE U.S. WELCOMED THIS ACTION BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE U.S. HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE STATES WHERE THE SHIP WAS DUE TO ARRIVE. THE U.S. INTENTION WAS NOT TO PREVENT THE SHIP FROM ARRIVING AT THESE PORTS. MOREOVER, THE U.S. ALWAYS ACTED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WAS COOPERATING AND THAT, IF ILLEGAL CHEMICALS WERE BEING SHIPPED, IT WAS NOT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

/ 10. SOME OF THE STATES (WE INFORMED), THE UAE IN PARTICULAR, DID NOT WANT A SHIP CARRYING DANGEROUS CHEMICALS TO STOP AT THEIR PORT. THE U.S. DID NOT ANTICIPATE THIS (RE)ACTION; WE DID NOT REQUEST IT; AND THE U.S. HAS BEEN ACTING VIGOROUSLY IN RECENT DAYS TO GAIN ACCESS FOR THE SHIP TO THE ORIGINAL DESIGNATED PORTS OF CALL. WE ARE WILLING TO CONTINUE THESE EFFORTS. GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE U.S. HAS ACTED RESPONSIBLY THROUGHOUT, IN A WAY THAT ANY RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT IF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS WERE BEING SHIPPED. IF AN INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED, IN FACT, THAT U.S. ALLEGATIONS WERE FALSE, THE U.S. WOULD REGARD THIS (OUTCOME) SERIOUSLY. HOWEVER, SHOULD INVESTIGATION OF THE CARGO PROVE THAT U.S. INFORMATION IS ACCURATE, THIS WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. THEREFORE, AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE THE CARGO.

11. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE POLMINCOUNS HAD
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JUST BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (SEPTEL) REGARDING CONTACTS WE ARE MAKING WITH SEVERAL STATES IN THE REGION. THESE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE. WE WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE SHIP, INCLUDING ITS PASSAGE TO SCHEDULED PORTS OF CALL. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN COMPLICATIONS OWING TO OUR EFFORTS TO PREVENT DANGEROUS CHEMICALS FROM BEING SHIPPED TO IRAN, BUT THIS WAS NOT A REASON FOR THE U.S. TO HAVE REFRAINED FROM EFFORTS (TO STOP SHIPMENT OF SUCH CHEMICALS TO IRAN).

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12. THE AMBASSADOR RECOMMENDED THAT, AFTER THIS AFFAIR IS RESOLVED, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. AND CHINA TO INVESTIGATE THIS INCIDENT TO SEE WHAT USEFUL LESSONS WE MAY DRAW FOR THE FUTURE, SO THAT WE CAN IMPROVE OUR COOPERATION IN THIS AREA. IN THE MEANTIME, HE PROMISED TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO WASHINGTON THE REPRESENTATION BY ASSISTANT MINISTER QIN.

13. IN REPLY, QIN FURTHER REITERATED SEVERAL OF THE POINTS THAT HE HAD MADE EARLIER, ADDING A CATEGORICAL ASSERTION THAT THERE ARE NO CHEMICAL WEAPONS PRECURSORS ON BOARD THE "YIN HE." IN CLOSING, HE REITERATED THAT HE WAS MAKING A "STRONG PROTEST" OVER U.S. ACTIONS AND

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S E C R E T SECTION 03 OF 03 BEIJING 028146

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SUBJECT: CHINA "STRONGLY PROTESTS" U.S. ACTIONS RE THE
"YIN HE"

THAT CHINA EXPECTED THE U.S. TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE BY
GAINING ADMISSION FOR THE "YIN HE" TO A RELEVANT PORT
OF CALL.

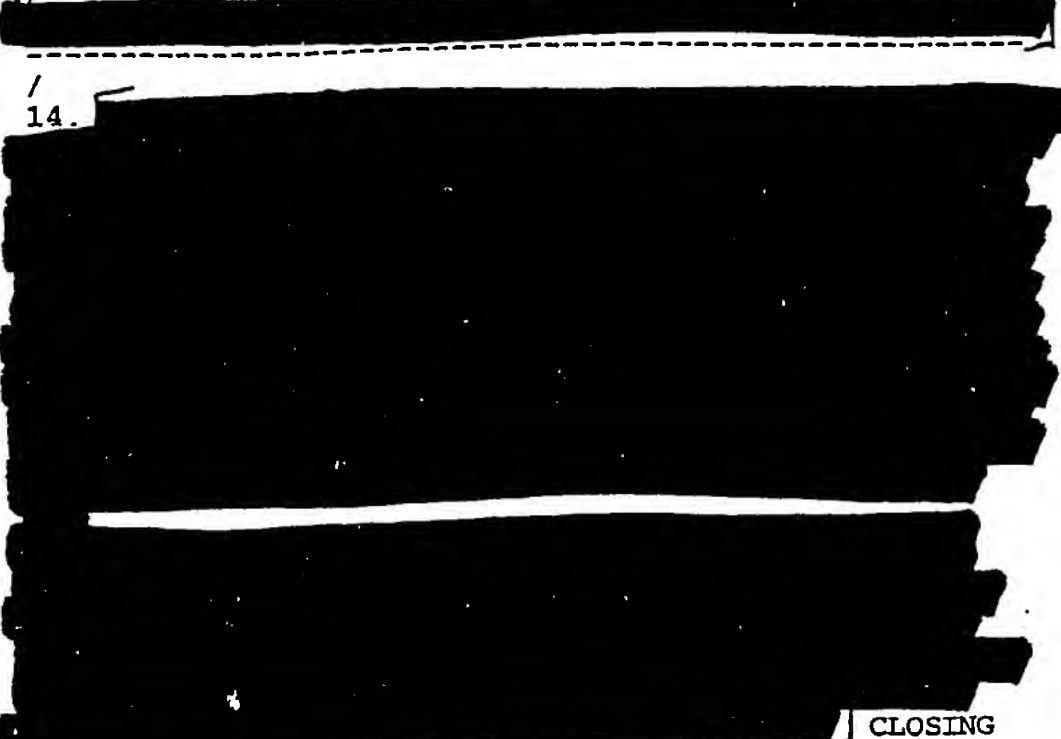
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CLOSING

THE MEETING, THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT IT MIGHT NOT
SURPRISE CHINA TO LEARN THAT SOME LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
HAVE MADE CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS TO CHINA AND THE
U.S. ROY

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